

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MBFR VIENNA 0112

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: MARCH 11 WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENT

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

1. AT THE NINETY-SEVENTH PLENARY MEETING OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS ON MARCH 11, CHAIRED BY NETHERLANDS REP (DE VOS), BELGIAN REP (ADRIAENSSEN) AND CZECHOSLOVAK REP (LAHODA) WERE THE ONLY SPEAKERS. CZECHOSLOVAK REP'S STATEMENT IS BEING REPORTED BY SEPTTEL. IN HIS STATEMENT, ADRIAENSSEN MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN REVIEWING THOSE ELEMENTS OF THE WESTERN PROGRAM WHICH REMAIN VALID AND HAVE NOT BEEN CHANGED THROUGH THE DECEMBER 16 NUCLEAR OFFER:

A. THE WESTERN POSITION IN ITS ENTIRETY IS INTENDED TO DEAL WITH THE SECURITY SITUATION IN CENTRAL EUROPE, WHICH IS CHARACTERIZED BY LARGE AND DESTABILIZING GROUND
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FORCE DISPARITIES FAVORING THE EAST.

B. IT HAS BEEN GENERALLY RECOGNIZED THAT EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT GREATER STABILITY IN THE AREA SHOULD BEGIN WITH THE US AND USSR.

C. HOWEVER, IN THE WESTERN VIEW OF PHASING, REDUCTIONS FOR REACHING THE FINAL OUTCOME THE ALLIES HAVE PROPOSED SHOULD BE NEGOTIATED IN TWO SUCCESSIVE PHASES, GOVERNED BY SEPARATE AGREEMENTS.

D. TO MEET EASTERN CONCERNS RAISED BY WESTERN PHASING PROPOSALS, THE ALLIES HAVE PRESENTED COMPLEMENTARY PROPOSALS ON THE FIXED PERIOD OF TIME WITHIN WHICH SECOND PHASE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD START, THE ALL-PARTICIPANTS OFFER, NON-INCREASE COMMITMENTS ON GROUND AND AIR FORCE MANPOWER BETWEEN PHASES AND A REVIEW PROCEDURE.

E. THESE PHASING PROPOSALS, HOWEVER, CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM WESTERN PROPOSALS FOR A COMBINED COMMON COLLECTIVE CEILING.

F. THERE IS COMMON GROUND BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES AS TO THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS, ALTHOUGH THE QUESTION OF HUNGARY'S POSSIBLE ROLE REMAINS TO BE EXAMINED AND DECIDED.

G. THERE IS ALSO GENERAL AGREEMENT ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT THE SECURITY OF THE FLANKS SHOULD NOT BE DIMINISHED BY REDUCTIONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

H. ASSOCIATED MEASURES ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE AGREED SUBJECT MATTER OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND, IN THE WESTERN VIEW, FALL INTO THREE CATEGORIES: NON-CIRCUMVENTION, VERIFICATION AND STABILIZING MEASURES.

I. THE WEST HAS EXPLAINED THE NEED FOR NON-CIRCUMVENTION AND VERIFICATION MEASURES AND HAS PROPOSED SIX SPECIFIC STABILIZING MEASURES TO BE INCLUDED IN A FIRST PHASE AGREEMENT.
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J. IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT THE EAST STILL IS UNWILLING TO EXCHANGE DATA, THE NEED FOR WHICH THE WEST HAS STRESSED FROM THE OUTSET OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

K. THE IMPORTANT WESTERN PROPOSALS OF DEC 16 REPRESENT A SUBSTANTIAL ADDITION TO EARLIER ALLIED PROPOSALS AND OPEN THE WAY FOR THE EARLY CONCLUSION

OF AGREEMENTS BENEFITING ALL PARTICIPANTS.

2. THE FULL TEXT OF THE BELGIAN
STATEMENT IS BEING SENT BY AIRGRAM.RESOR

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